

## Wells County Commissioners

### Regular Session 11-19-2018

The Wells County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday November 19, 2018 at 9:30AM in the Commissioner's Room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex, Bluffton, IN. Those in attendance were Commissioners, Blake Gerber, Kevin Woodward and Tamara Robbins. Also in attendance were County Attorney, Roy Johnson and County Auditor, Beth Davis.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the minutes from November 5, 2018 regular session. Motion carried 3-0.

**Payroll And Claims:** Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve Payroll #24 in the amount of \$228,221.53 and 417 claims totaling \$291,972.53. Motion carried 3-0.

**Wells County Sheriff:** Sheriff Fisher reported 108 inmates, 13 are DOC and 17 are F6 DOC.

**Wells County Highway Supervisor:** Josh Cotton informed the commissioners that all the side ditch mowing for 2018 has been completed and equipment is now being stored. Josh gave updated on the road conversion projects for CR 500E and CR 1150N. The highway department will continue to grade the gravel roads until they freeze.

**Highway Engineer:** Nate Rumschlag announced Wells County has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 from the Community Crossing Matching Grant to fund three projects; the curve correction on the Hoosier Highway, Bridge #112 and Bridge #118. Bridge #112 has already been bid out and Nate intends to bid out Bridge #118 and Hoosier Highway Curve Correction on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. INDOT has put out a local call for Federal Aid 2024 and Nate would like to apply for the grant to correct the curve and realignment of County Home Road and CR 200S as well as the Hoosier Highway Realignment to Adams Street. The Hoosier Highway Realignment to Adams Street has also been submitted under the Local Trax Application, but we have not heard if we have been awarded that project yet so this would be a duplicate application. Nate provided two letters of financial commitment for the commissioner's approval so he can apply for the grant. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the letters of financial commitment. Motion carried 3-0. Nate presented a proposal from Alt & Witzig Engineering to do a subsurface investigation and geotechnical recommendations for the Bridge #99 project in the amount of \$3,750.00 and he would like to pay for the services from the CEDIT Bridge account. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the contract with Alt & Witzig and allow the president to sign the contract (Misc. 2018-21). Motion carried 3-0. Nate presented the design contracts for Bridge #'s 300 & 301 in Ossian and Bridge #121, both contracts are with Engineering Resources, Inc. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve both contracts and allow the president of the board to sign them (Misc. 2018-22 & Misc. 2018-23). Motion carried 3-0. Nate presented an Utility Permit to bury a fiber line from Wayne Street to CR 200S. Motion Made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the Permit. Motion carried 3-0. Five minor sub-division right-of-ways were presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve the right-of-ways. Motion carried 3-0. Last week Nate sent out reminder letters to property owners that have not provided their ROW's for the Road Conversion applications. A Regional Sewer District is scheduled tonight.

**Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission:** Doug Sundling the commissioner's appointment to the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission came before the commissioners to give updates on what the commission is currently doing. Doug explained the plans to extend the river greenway across SR 1 and continuing west through the Arts, Commerce and Visitors Centre property. The new trail would give people a chance to see the bluffs of Bluffton. Doug also provided an update on the Upper Wabash River Basin Commission noting that a final report on the recent study into the stability of the river bank in Adams and Wells counties is expected to be available in December.

**Zoning Ordinance Amendments:** Mike Lautzenheiser Jr. was back with the Zoning Ordinance changes that were presented to the commissioners at their last meeting. Motion made by Tamara Robbins, seconded by Kevin Woodward to approve both changes; Ordinance No. 2018-12 for the Wells County Zoning Ordinance Change and Ordinance No. 2018-13 for the Wells County Subdivision Control Ordinance change. Motion carried 3-0.

**Adjourned:** Wells County Commissioners adjourned at 10:07AM

**Wells County Commissioners**

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President, Blake Gerber

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Vice President, Kevin Woodward

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Tamara Robbins

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Davis, Wells County Auditor